

REMARKS

The Office action, Paper No. 12, has been carefully considered. Claims 2-45 are pending in the application and new claims 46-48 are introduced. Support for the amendments can be found at least at page 13, lines 13-21 of Applicant's specification. No new matter has been added thereby. The application presently stands subject to a restriction requirement for containing claims directed to the following species of the claimed invention, grouped by the Examiner as follows:

- I. Species in Figure 4;
- II. Species in Figure 5;
- III. Species in Figure 6;
- IV. Species in Figure 7; and
- V. Species in Figure 8.

Applicant provisionally elects Group II. Species in Figure 5, with claims 2-6, 19-22, 29-33, and 46-48 readable thereon. Applicant expressly reserves the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to the subject matter of the remaining non-elected species present in the application.

Applicant understands that upon allowance of generic claims corresponding to the elected species, withdrawn species claims may be allowed as provided by 37 CFR § 1.141, and as set forth in MPEP § 806.04(h). Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests confirmation that claims 7-18, 23-28, and 34-45 will be considered upon allowance of generic claims 2-6, 19-22, and 29-33.

Information Disclosure Statement/PTO 1449 Forms

Applicant has not yet received initialed copies of the PTO-1449 forms submitted to the USPTO on September 24, 2003 and November 12, 2003. Applicant hereby requests initialed

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copies of the PTO-1449 forms previously submitted in connection with this application in the next Office action.

Formal Drawings

Applicant also has not yet received notification from the Examiner accepting the formal drawings submitted to the USPTO on July 8, 2003. Applicant hereby requests confirmation in the next Office action that the formal drawings previously submitted are accepted by the Examiner.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that all claims are now allowable and respectfully request allowance of claims 2-48 in due course. The Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned at (617) 248-7044 to discuss any further issues in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

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